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LOCAL MEETINGS

MISSOURI BRANCH

The Missouri Folk-Lore Society held its Third Annual Meeting at the State University, Columbia, March 12 and 13. Papers were read as follows: "The Werewolf Superstition," by Dr. Caroline Stewart, Columbia; "The Origin of Ballads," by Professor H. M. Belden, Columbia; "Life Among the Arizona Indians," by Dr. F. A. Golder, Columbia; "Messiah Beliefs of the American Indians," by Miss Mary A. Owen, St. Joseph; "The Sacred Fire," by Professor A. O. Lovejoy, Columbia; "An English Christmas Play," by Miss Antoinette Taylor, St. Louis County; "Missouri Play-Parties," by Mrs. L. D. Ames, Columbia; "Georgia Plantation Songs," by Miss Colquitt Newell, Columbia. The officers for the ensuing year are: President, Miss Mary A. Owen (St. Joseph); Vice-Presidents, Dr. W. L. Campbell (Kansas City), Principal J. R. Powell (St. Louis), Miss Mary A. Wadsworth (Columbia); Secretary, Professor H. M. Belden (Columbia); Treasurer, Mrs. L. D. Ames. (Columbia); Directors, Miss Jennie M. A. Jones (St. Louis), Mr. W. S. Johnson (Tuscumbia), Dr. F. A. Golder (Columbia).

NEW YORK BRANCH

On April 22 the New York Branch met at Earl Hall, Columbia University. The Chairman called the attention of those present to the loss recently sustained by the American Folk-Lore Society through the murder of Dr. William Jones in the Philippines and the demise of Professor George R. Carpenter of Columbia University, who had just become a member of the New York Branch. Resolutions of condolence were committed to the Secretary for transmission to the families of these members. Dr. R. H. Lowie then addressed the meeting on "History and Mythology." The lecturer pointed out instances in which tradition had kept alive the memory of historical events, but arrived at the conclusion that it was practically hopeless to found history on oral tradition. The paper was discussed by Dr. Grinnell, Professor Joseph Jacobs, and Mr. Hagar.

On May 20 the fourth meeting of the Branch was called to order in Earl Hall. Mr. L. J. Frachtenberg read a paper on "Some Persian Superstitions," in which he called attention to some world-wide beliefs coexisting with Zoroastrianism in ancient Persia. The paper was discussed by Professor Boas, Miss Natalie Curtis, and Dr. Lowie. At the recommendation of the Council, the Chairman appointed several of the members to report on certain new publications on folk-lore and related subjects at the fall meetings. The society then adjourned for the summer months.